

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 12th May 2026

From the Principal

One of the problems about being the principal of a school (and trust me, there are many problems) is that people see you as the principal. And the problem about being seen as the principal is that everyone has their own individual ideas about what a principal is which affects the way they interact with me.

For some, the principal is seen as the manager of problems so if there is a problem, the principal is contacted. For others, the principal is seen as the bad guy, so if the principal is speaking to you, you must be in trouble. And for others still, the principal is seen as the boss, and with that goes all of the opinions about what a boss should be doing.

So depending upon who I am interacting with I have to be mindful of how they see me. But that in itself is difficult, because I don't know how everyone sees me. And people's thoughts about a principal can sometimes be influenced by what a previous principal was like, which is why some parents feel a bit uncomfortable talking to me, because of their experience of the principal when they were at school.

I don't think the job of a principal is the only job where we have opinions about the person based on their role, rather than who they are. Many of us might have certain opinions about doctors or teachers or politicians if we don't know them personally. We tend to put everyone with the same job into the same box as far as what their role is and what we expect from them.

It was interesting watching the reaction of the media last week when some Australian women and their children returned home after spending many years in refugee camps in Syria. "ISIS brides" was a phrase that was floated around, as people quickly tried to put everyone into the same box.

In the same week we hear of the Royal Commission into anti-semiticism which is investigating how Jewish people are treated in Australian society. We hear of people who try to convince us and themselves that all Jewish people are the same.

But the reality of who people are is usually far removed from the jobs that they have or the labels that we put on them. In the end, everyone is a human being with their own story, their own experiences, and their own way of being. And that's where we need to meet them - at who they are as a human being, not what job title or label they have.

Who God calls us to be is the version of us that is fully human. God does not put labels on us but sees us as individuals, and we are called to do the same to each other. Strong communities are built when we meet people as other human beings, not as a role or label that we might put on them.

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

Labels are for
filing. Labels
are for clothing.
Labels are not
for people. -
*Martina
Navratilova*

**Star of the Sea
Catholic College
acknowledges the
Leterremairener
people as the
traditional
custodians of the
land on which
our school stands.**



Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart

Spirituality



Attentiveness

Hospitality

Compassion

Psalm for the Ascension of the Lord

*God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

*All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth.*

*God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne.*



Star of the Sea Church Times

Mass times for this week:

Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:00pm Saturday

Sunday Mass - 11:00am Sunday

at the George Town Catholic Church (Our Lady Star of the Sea) which is located in Goulburn Street, across the road from the Hall.

Welcome

We welcome Vance (7) and his family to the Star of the Sea Catholic community. We hope they enjoy their time here.

Staff Movements

Mrs Halley is on leave this Friday.

Mrs Harmer is on leave next Tuesday afternoon.

Year 10 Camp

Our Year 10s take off for camp in Melbourne tomorrow until the end of the week. We wish them well and thanks Mrs Robotham, Mrs Nesbit and Mr Goodall for accompanying them.

School Lunches

School lunches begin again this week.

Wednesday - Grades 3 to 6

Friday - Prep to Grade 2

Kinder Information Morning

Our Kinder 2027 Information morning will be held this Thursday 14th May at 10:30am in the Kinder room (straight after SetUp). Parents who have children turning 5 in 2027 are most welcome to attend to find out more about what Kinder looks like at Star of the Sea.

Year 7 Enrolments 2027

If you know of someone who is wishing to enrol their child in Year 7 for next year (from another school), please encourage them to have their enrolment form into the office **by the end of this term** (July 10th). We may have limited spaces for enrolments next year so enrolments will **not** be done on a first come first served basis.

For parents of children currently in Grade 6 at Star of the Sea, a form will be sent home towards the end of this term to confirm which school children will attend next year.

Hollybank Excursion

The First Nations students from Year 5-10 will be visiting Hollybank on Wednesday May 20th. This will provide an opportunity for connection and learning. Students will participate in a range of activities which will have a focus on exploring the region, connection and resilience building. Further details about this excursion are available on Compass for identified students.

Winter Uniform

At Star of the Sea Catholic College students are expected to move into the formal academic winter uniform at the beginning of Term 2. We expect to see all students wearing their uniform neatly, correctly and with pride. If you require additional uniform items please make arrangements this week to order and collect these. If families need assistance with uniform items, please contact Mrs Condric in the office.

New School Socks

A reminder that the new school socks have arrived and are available for purchase. The new design is white with a maroon hoop around the top and will replace the existing maroon and grey socks, as these are phased out. Students may wear either the white socks or the maroon socks (girls) or grey socks (boys) for the remainder of the year. We encourage families to purchase the new socks as older pairs need replacing.

Student Representative Council

The SRC have recently met to discuss their ideas about school improvements and issues of concern. This forum is led by the Year 10 Student Leaders and students from Year 2-10 are involved in the meetings. Students in Kinder, Prep and Year 1 will have the chance to share ideas in class which will also be brought to the SRC for consideration. Having an active SRC at Star of the Sea further enables students to have their ideas represented in planning conversations. Each SRC member has the opportunity to share ideas that their class has put forward or raise concerns. These are included in the notes from the meeting, discussed and there is a vote as part of the meeting to determine which ideas will become the next thing to focus on.

The Year 10 Student Leaders bring the ideas from the SRC meeting to their weekly Leadership Meeting in order to include these ideas in their planning. As part of their leadership role they then create a proposal for the staff for further consideration.

We have been really impressed by the way the SRC has worked collaboratively together to identify areas of improvement. It is important that our students have a voice in how their school evolves and the SRC provides an opportunity for this. We look forward to their continued work in the school this year.

Year 10 Melbourne Trip

The Year 10 students will head to Melbourne for three days from Wednesday to Friday this week. This is their camp experience for this year. Staff and students will visit a range of attractions and experiences. They will learn how to navigate their way around a large metropolitan city, using public transport maps and systems. We will have more to share about this trip once students return.

Primary Yard Redevelopment

The Primary Yard Redevelopment continues to progress with some behind the scenes work having been completed recently. There is a lot of work that goes into a major project such as this and we know our school community is eager to see this redevelopment happening. The Student Advisory Group from Star of the Sea put a lot of time and thought into the developments they wanted to see and their ideas have been the basis of the proposed plans. The plans are currently available for viewing in the Deputy Principal's office. They will be placed back on display in the Primary Gallery when the Easter period concludes.

Cross Country

The Cross Country event will be held on Tuesday May 19th. The year 9/10 students will begin at approximately 11:30, year 8s at approximately 11:50, 7s at 12:05. The year 6s will begin at approximately 1:40, grade 5s at 1:50, Grade 4 at 2:00, grade 3 at 2:10, grade 2 at 2:20, grade 1 at 2:25, prep at 2:30, Kinder at 2:35.

State Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to Rafael Tilain, Chad Jenkins, Madalyn Goodridge, Marli Leslie, Finley Upston and Matilda Jacobs for their amazing efforts at the state athletics carnival last Friday.

A huge congratulations to Chad Jenkins who placed second in his long jump event and Madalyn Goodridge who placed third in long jump and her 200m race.

Thank you to Mr Laurence and Shannon for supporting the students on this day.





Kinder Information Morning

Thursday 14th May , 10:30 am

Kinder 2027

Do you have a child turning 5 in 2027?

Everyone is welcome to come
along to our Kinder Information
Morning in the Kinder Room.

Our Kinder class is:

- * a welcoming and reflective place
- * community focused
- * a great place to start school
- * a place to play and explore.

Contact us for more information
6382 1242



Attentiveness

Hospitality

Compassion

SetUp for Success

Our early learning program, SetUp, is back in 2026 and is on every Thursday during term time between 9:00am and 10:30am in the Kinder room and is for children from birth to 5 years of age.

It is completely free and all are welcome. Mrs Ros Ashenden will run SetUp during Term 1.

SETUP for SUCCESS

Mother's Day 2026



Calendar Term 2 - 2026	
Wednesday 13th - Fri 15th May	Year 10 Camp
Thursday 14th May	Kinder 2025 Information morning
Friday 15th May	National Walk to School Safely Day
Tuesday 19th May	Star of the Sea Cross Country
Tuesday 26th May	NHSSA Cross Country Carnival
Thursday 28th May	TPSSA Cross Country
Friday 29th May	Student-free day (Discernment year)
Friday 5th June	Real Talk visit (secondary) (TBC)
Monday 8th June	King's Birthday public holiday
Monday 15th June	School Photos
Thursday 19th June	Grade 6 Presentation Charism Day
Friday 26th June	TPSSA Winter Sport Round 1
Sunday 5th - Sunday 12th July	NAIDOC Week
Monday 1st July	Year 10 Work Experience week - <i>to be confirmed</i>
Friday 10th July	End of Term Assembly; Term 2 ends for students

Term 1 Primary Assembly Roster

The following classes will be leading assemblies over the coming weeks:

Please note that this roster may change

WEEK 2	Thursday 14th May	Grade 1/2	12.10pm
WEEK 3	Thursday 21st May	Prep	12.10pm
WEEK 4	Thursday 28th May	Kinder	12.10pm